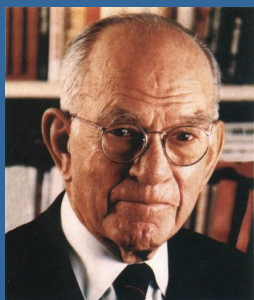




FULBRIGHT

Quarterly Newsletter Summer 2019

Chào FULBRIGHT!



"Perhaps the greatest power of such intellectual exchange is to convert nations into peoples and to translate ideologies into human aspirations"
-- J. William Fulbright

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From the Director

Dear Fulbrighters and Fulbright friends,

Time flies since our last newsletter! Academic year 2018 has ended with a lot of accomplishments and interesting stories from our Fulbrighters in the U.S. and in Vietnam. We were so impressed with the stories they shared, and with the achievements they have made during their grants. We were grateful to receive continued cooperation from partners in Vietnam, which guarantees our success.

Earlier in the summer, we bade farewell to our American friends who have completed their Fulbright journeys in Vietnam while at the same time welcoming new Viet-

namese Fulbrighters who will represent Vietnam at U.S. schools across America as scholars, students and teaching assistants in the 2019 academic year. We firmly believe that the new cohort will continue the success of the program.

To commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Fulbright Program, the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, and Fulbright Program leadership at the U.S. Department undertook a new branding effort that included input from different stakeholders of the Program around the world, and the new logo has been launched in May. The refreshed identity and new logo

reflects the Fulbright Program today and the Fulbright Program's renewed commitment to its mission: Educational and Cultural Exchange, Lasting Connections and Mutual Understanding.

We truly appreciate the comments and feedback we received, as well as the stories, articles and photos you shared. Please keep them coming so that we can include them in future publications, which will help us improve the newsletter.

Feel free to enjoy this quarter's publication and stay tuned for the next edition that will be coming out very soon!

Launching Fulbright New Logo

Fulbright has brought people together and moved nations toward a more peaceful world for more than 70 years. Did you know that since 1992 of the Fulbright Program in Vietnam, there have been over 1300 Fulbrighters? A sincere thank you to all our partners and Fulbrighters for your contribution to the Fulbright Program in Vietnam.

Join us in celebrating Fulbright's new logo as we move forward with a fresh, modern look!

Read about it here: bit.ly/2WXPk7b



FULBRIGHT

Farewell to 2018-2019 English Teaching Assistants, U.S. Scholars and Students

Ambassador Kritenbrink congratulates Fulbright English Teaching Assistants, Scholars, and Students for the successful completion of their programs in Vietnam. Their commitment as cultural ambassadors exemplifies the program's mission of increasing mutual understanding through educational and cultural exchanges. As Fulbright Alumni, they will continue to strengthen the people-to-people relationships between the United States and Vietnam for years to come.



Pre-departure Orientation for Vietnamese Scholars, Students and Foreign Language Teaching Assistants AY 2019—2020

For the academic year 2019-2020 the Fulbright Program in Vietnam awarded 24 scholarships for Vietnamese citizens - continuing a 26 year tradition of excellence.

On June 4 -6, 2019, pre-departure orientation sessions took place in Ho Chi Minh City for those departing grantees of the Scholars, Students and Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Program categories. Grantees were invited for presentations, talks and practical issues such as visa issuance, border and cultural adjustment, banking and arrangements, insurance, emergency, and more. Fulbright the conversations their U.S. Fulbrighters and offer new Fulbrighters.

Consul General together with U.S. Mission in



ulated the 24 Vietnamese recipients of Fulbright scholarships who were selected after rigorous review from a large pool of extremely qualified candidates.

Mary Tarnowka officers of the Vietnam congrat-

Fulbrighters of AY 2019 – 2020 encompass a diverse range of academic interests, from Biology, Zoology, and International Relations to Law, Education, Liberal Arts, Environmental Studies, Publishing, and a host of other fields. Vietnamese Fulbrighters study and do research in various academic and research institutions in the United States.

Vietnamese Scholars to the U.S. AY 2019 - 2020

Dr. Phạm Hồng Thái is an entomologist based at the Vietnam National Museum of Nature (VNMN, Hanoi, Vietnam).

Having earned his Ph.D. in Taiwan,

Dr. Pham has the academic credentials and training to command a high level of respect in his home country. His continuing research in

taxonomy and systematics, as well as the distribution of insect species in Vietnam and surrounding regions, is patently solid, and he prolifically publishes his findings in internationally respected, peer-reviewed scientific journals. He has published a book of essays, a guide book and a total of 114 related publications, including 43 publications published in the International Journal of the SCI and SCIE categories, 19 publications that appear in the International Journals, 7 publications in Vietnamese Journals, 45 publications published in the national conferences/workshops. As a Fulbright Vietnamese Scholar, Thái is working with entomologists at Department of Biology, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah.



UCL for another two years. She is now leading a research group working on how bacteria resist to antimicrobial agents and cause infections in humans. Thanks to the Fulbright Program, she will have the chance to further explore functional genomics of an opportunistic human bacterial pathogen with her colleagues at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland in 2020.

Dr. Đỗ Thị Phúc is a lecturer at Faculty of Biology, VNU-University of Science, Vietnam National University Hanoi. After 8 years of studying and working in Germany, she returned to Hanoi and has worked at VNU-HUS



since 2012. She is interested in plant science and sustainable agriculture. Her research focuses on mechanisms of plant stress responses. She won the L'OREAL – UNESCO for Women in Science National Fellowships in the year 2016 and was selected as the representative of Vietnam for competition of ASEAN-US Science Prize for Women in the year 2018. As a Fulbright Scholar, she will continue to work on rice plants in response to high night temperature at Department of Biochemistry, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resource of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. In this research she will decipher the molecular basis of high night temperature resilience in rice through metabolomics analysis. She both hopes and wants to bring scientific knowledge to agriculture practices for sustainable agriculture in Vietnam.

Ms. Phạm Ngọc Minh Trang is currently a lecturer in Faculty of International relations, University of

Social Sciences and Humanities, Ho Chi Minh City. She is

teaching International Law and Law of the Sea. Her research interests focus primarily on South China Sea disputes.

Trang has received a scholarship from the Fulbright U.S. – ASEAN Visiting Scholar Program to conduct research in the U.S. – Asia Law Institute (New York University). The aim of her project is to seek a practical model of cooperation between the ASEAN and the U.S. to enhance the compliance of international law in the South China Sea.

Ms. Phạm Quỳnh Lan is a lecturer at Lawyer Training Department, Judicial Academy, Ministry of Justice. She has been selected as a Fulbright U.S. – ASEAN visiting scholar AY 2019 – 2020. Her research

topic *The Future of Legal Education in the U.S and Vietnam: A Look Through Clinical Legal Education Model* will be

conducted at the East Asian Legal Studies Center, Harvard Law School, in order to create a model of CLE for Vietnamese legal education institutions. Lan is delighted to explore American culture and connect with people from all around the world during her stay in the U.S.



Dr. Nguyễn Thị Thu Hoài has been working as a lecturer at the International University, Vietnam National University of Ho Chi Minh City since 2011. She obtained her PhD

degree on proteomics of bacterial pathogens in Germany and continued to study in this field at Louvain Drug Research Institute,



VIETNAMESE STUDENTS & FLTAs AY 2019

No.	Name	Field of study	U.S. University	Current job	Current employer	Current City/Province
Vietnamese Students						
1	Nguyen Thi Cam Nhung	Film Directing	University of California, Los Angeles	Senior Copywriter	Geometry Global Vietnam	HCMC
2	Nguyen Hoang Tung	Educational Psychology	Columbia University	Director of Operations	Beautiful Mind VN	HCMC
3	Nguyen Thi Nhu Mai	TESOL	Syracuse University	English Teacher	PTC Language Center	Nha Trang
4	Dinh Le Vu	MBA - Marketing	University of San Francisco	Assistant Manager	Maritime Bank	Hanoi
5	Do Thi Thuy Ha	Environmental Economics	Duke University	Project officer - Economic Analyst	Institute of Water Resources Planning	Hanoi
6	Bui Thien Huan	Theatre Directing	University of Arkansas, Fayetteville	Actor	Dragonfly Theatre Co.	HCMC
7	Le Nguyen Anh Khoi	Marriage and Family Therapy	Syracuse University	Teaching Assistant	The Catholic University of Louvain (UCL)	HCMC
8	Nguyen Thi Ngoc Huyen	International Education	University of North Texas	Junior Officer	Learning Resource Center Quang Binh University	Quang Binh
9	Hoang Thi Thu Trang	International Education	University of Washington	Leadership Development Officer/ Teachers' Coach	Teach For Vietnam	HCMC
10	Tran Quynh Anh	Liberal Arts	California Institute of the Arts	Curator and Director	Post Vidai	HCMC
11	Nguyen Thai Son	Applied Linguistics	Hofstra University	Legal English lecturer	University of Law Ho Chi Minh City	HCMC
12	Le Nguyen Hai Yen	MBA	University of Notre Dame	CEO & Co-founder	Nordic Coder	HCMC
13	Dang Vinh Thang	Publishing	Pace University	Manager of Business Development Division	Tre Publishing House	HCMC
Foreign Language Teaching Assistants (FLTA)						
1	Le Minh Tan	Language Teaching FLTA	University of Wisconsin - Madison	Lecturer of English	Vinh University	Vinh
2	Pham Huong Lien	Language Teaching FLTA	University of Hawaii at Manoa	English Trainer	IMAP Vietnam	Hanoi
3	Doan Thi An Hien	Language Teaching FLTA	University of Michigan	Lecturer of English	Quy Nhon University	Quy Nhon
4	Hoang Thanh Tung	Language Teaching FLTA	Michigan State University	English Teacher	Prestige English Center	Hai Phong

My Fulbright Specialist Experience

By Dr. John H. Barnett, Fulbright Specialist at Vietnam National University of Agriculture

"My program was to set up an Institutional Review Board on Human Subjects. In addition, I am also assisting VNUA in setting up a class curriculum to teach qualitative research methods at their university. Concerning qualitative research methods, I am currently working with two departments at VNUA. I have had a positive experience at Vietnam National University of Agriculture (VNUA). In addition, the enthusiasm of the faculty at VNUA has been astounding.

The participants at VNUA are administrators and faculty members from different disciplines. Currently, there only three universities in Vietnam that have an Institutional Review Board on

Human Subjects. VNUA wants to be similar to an American University. The reason is that Dr. Vien's vision is to become a major research university in Asia and VNUA and to be recognized internationally. By having an Institutional Review Board on Human Subjects and teaching research methods on their campus, VNUA will become a much stronger university in Vietnam. Most importantly, this project was well received by VNUA faculty.

Although this project took about six weeks to complete it was the right amount of time for the faculty at VNUA to understand the new concepts. VNUA faculty had a lot of questions and I spent a great deal of time mentoring faculty members at the university.

I did go into the rural areas of Vietnam. I went Bac Giang and Ninh Binh. At Bac Giang I picked litchi with Dr. Long's family. This was Long's father's family village, where I met his uncles and his brother. The following day I went to Ninh Binh with Dr. Long and his friend Kim. Kim and I went to a lake and by boat we went into caves and visited some islands, including Kong island where the latest King Kong movie was filmed. In addition, I have been invited to have dinner with friends in Hanoi. For example, I was invited by a researcher from VNUA to have dinner with his research team and we met at the Green Cook in Eco Park, which is located outside of Hanoi. Overall, this has been a wonderful experience in Vietnam."



"Adventures in English Land"

By Trini Bui, ETA AY18-19 at Thua Thien - Hue College of Education

"In April, five members of the 2018-2019 Fulbright program, including myself, presented on a panel about the Vietnamese American experience teaching and living in Vietnam. As part of the Saigon Dep Lam series at the American Center at the US Consulate in Ho Chi Minh City, Athena Nguyen, David Thai, Chau Ngo, Thu Dao, and I shared the similarities and differences in Vietnamese American and Vietnamese cultures, the struggles and successes we experienced as Viet Kieu in Vietnam, and shared advice about teaching and speaking English confidently, regardless of language level. The panel is archived on the US Consulate's Facebook."



Being a cultural ambassador is a piece of (glutinous rice) cake

By Bao Huynh – Vietnamese FLTA 2018-2019



I had to be honest. The label ‘Fulbright cultural ambassador’ was, at first to me, intimidating. ‘Cultural’, ‘Ambassador’, such big words that imply great dignity and authority. It did not help that the committee members and speakers during our orientations never failed to stress the term twice and thrice.

But if my Fulbright experience taught me one thing, it’s that we are all cultural ambassadors in our own ways. You do not have to fit certain molds or meet certain

expectations to be a ‘model representative’ of our country.

It is my belief that there is a side of Vietnam in each Vietnamese person that deserves to be shared and heard. During my year as the Vietnamese FLTA/ ‘cultural ambassador’ in Madison, Wisconsin, I:

Rapped Vietnamese songs in front of American high school students and taught college students to use Viet slangs and nói lái (word play). I played Bánh dũa (tennis ball and chopsticks) with them and ran a story telling language table on ghost stories. I choreographed a Tet dance performance and danced (badly) in it. All of this had to do with my very own experiences and upbringing as a Vietnamese.

The point is, the human connection is universal. It transcends culture and eth-

nicity. Cultures spread most effectively when they speak to such emotions as curiosity, excitement, humor, and empathy.

Thus, I replaced ‘Culture’ with ‘Human’ and ‘ambassador’ with ‘story teller’. I simply relate my human experiences to other humans in a different land.

After all, Fulbright never asked me to be the ‘High culture ambassador’. So MY Vietnamese culture is what I will be an ambassador to.



Experience Judging English Competition

By Norman Archer, ETA AY 2018—2019

Earlier this year, I was invited to be a guest judge at an English-Speaking Competition for high school students in my province, Phu Tho. Over 40 high schools participated in the two-part competition – the first was an individual eloquence competition in which student had to speak for 5 minutes about a topic selected at random; the second was a group performance of acting, dancing, and singing. During the eloquence competition, I heard speeches on topics ranging from arguments about climate change and cyber-bullying to explanations of Vietnam’s rich culture and traditions. I was impressed by the clarity and thoughtfulness of the students, and being a new to judging, had some difficult evaluating the strong efforts against one and other. During the group performances, students acted out traditional folk tales from Vietnam and advocated for driving safety and environmental conservation. All of the performances were delivered with great energy and creativity, and I was particularly impressed by some of the original material that the students presented. Lastly, I was blown away by the singing and dancing of many of the students, their talent matched only by their courage and bravery to perform in front of a large audience. I was proud

that my own school, Hung Vuong High School for the Gifted, took home some of the top prizes (and I promise I was an impartial judge!). Ultimately, I left the competition in awe of the ability, confidence, and imagination of the high school students in my province, and I hope they enjoyed the competition as much as I did.



Hủ Tiếu Auntie

Written by Athena Nguyen, and illustrated by Megan Johnson, ETAs 2018—2019

"It all happened by chance. I had stumbled upon this particular place because a teacher from the school wanted to take me here for breakfast. We sat in the shaded front porch of the owner's house as she served us a variety of broken rice dishes and a Vietnamese soup called hủ tiếu.

The food was delicious, inexpensive, and clean. I had plenty of reasons to return.

I liked coming at irregular hours, when no one else was there. I would sit in the back corner and watch motorbikes go by as I enjoyed my meal in peace. In Vietnamese language and culture, it is common to call people who are older than you "cô" or "dì," which is understood as "aunt" or "miss," depending on the context. Even though this woman and I rarely exchanged more than a few words at a time, I always called her "cô" and viewed her as my auntie.

At the end of March, I had an intense case of food poisoning. I continued to teach, but I felt absolutely drained. I suffered from headaches, stomach



cramps, and overall fatigue for a whole week. Towards the end of those seven days, I felt particularly miserable. Food poisoning can be a challenging experience, but

it is especially difficult because I live alone. When I came to see my auntie at my usual time, I ordered hủ tiếu and ate my meal slowly. I didn't have an appetite anymore and I felt bad about not finishing all my food. As I paid her, I explained to her that I was having stomach issues. She immediately began asking about how my stomach was feeling, what I had been eating, and what symptoms I was experiencing. She asked me if I wanted some medicinal wine or straight black coffee while picking t-shirt fuzz off my sweaty shoulder. She even offered me the last of her salt and pepper container, which she tried to put into my little bag of food that

I had asked to take home. I was overwhelmed by her kindness and told her that I would take some medicine and try to visit her tomorrow. I took some pills that night, but the situation wasn't getting any better.

The next morning, I visited her, and she made me a special bowl of hủ tiếu to ease my stomach. Since I was the only one there, she sat down and chatted with me. We talked about our families, what I was doing in Vietnam, and my hopes and aspirations. We exchanged more stories and laughed about our shared experiences. She advised me on what to eat and prepared black coffee for me to drink. After I paid for my meal and went home, I cried. I was overwhelmed with emotion; I felt intense gratitude for this woman, who did everything she could to help me feel better. Her genuine kindness and support lifted my spirits. In the end, even though she is not my blood relative, she is certainly my auntie."

Megan Johnson



Athena Nguyen



APPLICATION CALL FOR:

Fulbright Vietnamese Visiting Scholar Program 2020

The U.S. Mission in Vietnam seeks qualified candidates for the 2020 Fulbright Vietnamese Visiting Scholar Program (VSP).

Eligibilities: Fulbright Vietnamese Visiting Scholar applicants must:

- hold an M.A. or Ph.D. degree
- Be a Vietnamese citizen
- be proficient in English

Grant Length: Applicant may choose a grant for a semester (5 months) or full academic year (09 months)

- A-semester grant (05 months) must begin in September 2020 or January 2021

One academic year grant (09 months) must begin in September 2020

Fields of study: Applicants of disciplines in the social sciences and humanities, science, and technology are welcome to apply.

The deadline of application submission is

5:00 p.m., October 15, 2019 Vietnamese Local Time.

The Reach of Compassion

By Dr. Eric L. Krakauer, U.S. Scholar, AY 2018—2019

"To bring a little more compassion into world affairs and thereby to increase the chance that nations will learn at last to live in peace and friendship."

In this way, Senator J. William Fulbright (1905 – 1995) described the goal of the Fulbright Program. In light of the recent resurgence around the world of many forms of bigotry – racist, sexist, nationalist, religious fundamentalist – and the resultant violence and suffering, there is a greater need now for this program than at any time in recent decades.

During a visit to the wonderful Vietnam National Fine Arts Museum in Hanoi, I chanced upon a 17th century wooden sculpture of "Phật Bà Quan Âm," the goddess of mercy. She is depicted as having a thousand eyes and a thousand hands: a thousand eyes to see all the suffering of the world and a thousand hands to try to relieve all the suffering of the world. It struck me that this sculpture symbolizes in the best way I have ever seen the mission of my own field: palliative care. Palliative care is the prevention and relief of suffering of people with serious health problems. It is an effort to recognize and properly diagnose physical, psychological, social and spiritual suffering and to find effective ways to relieve it. Toward this end, I have had the privilege this year of assisting the University of

Medicine & Pharmacy at Ho Chi Minh City to establish one of the first academic departments of palliative care in the



world, to start one of the first palliative medicine specialist training programs in the developing world, and to help train the palliative care teams at major hospitals affiliated with my university including the Ho Chi Minh City Cancer Hospital, the University Medical Center of Ho Chi Minh City, and City Children's Hospital #3.

But it occurs to me that this woodcut also symbolizes the humanitarian work of the Fulbright Program as a whole envisioned by Senator Fulbright. Fulbright grantees are sent to countries around the world where they see and experience the lives and needs of others. While overseas, they extend a hand of friendship and provide training or technical assistance to local colleagues. In many cases, inspired by what they saw, they continue overseas assistance for many years after their Fulbright grant ends. The Fulbright Program also provides foreign scholars and students with opportunities to help improve the lot of the people of their countries by pursuing studies or research unavailable at home, studies of human rights or independent judiciary, for example, or research on bacterial resistance to antibiotics.

The Fulbright Program enables scholars and students to see what the world needs and to find or pursue ways to respond to the need. It fosters friendship, mutual understanding, compassion and peace. Perhaps Senator Fulbright and the Program that bears his name extend Mercy's reach.



My Guardian Angel

By Dang Quang Tam, Vietnamese Students AY 2018 - 2019



Everyone has his or her own dream in life and I am not an exception. When I was a high school boy 20 years ago, during my very first English lessons in my life, I had a distant dream of studying English in an English-speaking country. However, my youthful dream became unfulfilled as I was born and raised in a poor, mountainous commune named Ngoc Son, Do Luong district, Nghe An province, where many residents did not have enough food to eat, and that their disadvantaged children, I was one of them, went to school with empty stomachs was an unsurprising fact, let alone dream of studying abroad.

After earning a full-time Bachelor of Art in English Language Teaching from Nghe An Teacher Training College, I was assigned to teach English at poorly-equipped middle school in a mountainous commune called Giang Son. Along with teaching

job, I pursued another university degree through a distance training program by Hue University. My wish to pursue a master's degree gradually faded since I was not eligible to do a master's degree in my country at that phase, and if yes, I could not afford to do it, either. However, I never stopped making effort to improve my English and teaching techniques by making use of the Internet, following several English websites. I also googled to look for information about scholarships, but I was not eligible because of my distance undergraduate degree, and my age. But people often say that when a door shuts, another door will open. Therefore, I never gave up my hope.



Then, one spring night of 2016, I discovered my guardian angel-Fulbright program in Vietnam on the Internet. I was completely attracted by the scholarship because apart from being fully sponsored to pursue a full-time master's degree at a US university, candidates' spouse and children can accompany with them during their time in the US, having once in a lifetime opportunity to live and study in a top-world country.

Bearing in mind a saying that 'We never know what we can do if we do not give it a go.' I applied for Fulbright though I was ambitious to be selected because there were hundreds of outstanding candidates competing. Being selected as the second alternate candidate for student program did not discourage me. I applied for FLTA program and was officially awarded. Finally, my dream fulfilled when my status in student program was upgraded and had opportunity to wear this most unique T-shirt, taking pictures with my family at Saint Michael's College in Vermont.



Myths and Facts about hosting a Fulbright ETA

By Ms. Vu Thi Kim Thanh, Hoang Van Thu High School for the Gifted



In simple terms, an ETA living abroad in a new culture needs to be taken care of by the host all the time. There is, in fact, no need as they have grown up and they are trained in the orientation course held at the beginning of their Fulbright experiences. (The writer herself was very worried about the ETA safety during the first days when Samuel arrived at the city. She phoned to check if he was alright and to ascertain what time he had arrived in his room after a party. But actually, the ETA could manage in each

circumstance, if not, he would have let us know. After the writer realized that it was not necessary, she laughed at herself. The main reason leading to this misunderstanding is that in Vietnamese culture, we still regard our children immature even after they are 30 years old or they are married. When receiving an ETA, the people in charge of administration were very worried about how to make the ETA's comfortable and convenient. But the opposite is true if too much concern like phoning, messengers or chats on Facebook. One more thing ETAs prefer us to do is to write emails to them as they feel it easier to communicate except for necessity.

Next, the differences in culture must be taken into consideration.

In Vietnam we show hospitality by offering to put the most delicious dishes in to their guests' bowls, but sometimes it may cause annoyance as they can help themselves to whatever they like. Dress code should be paid attention as sometimes we take it for granted and do not inform

the ETAs in advance, which causes embarrassment to them in some situations.

As regards the change in timetables or any kind of meeting or social gatherings, we think we can make some changes to the plans or schedules and inform them later. This also creates an unfavorable working condition for them as they are accustomed to working according to the plans.



"Thank you!" by President of Vinh University

"On behalf of Vinh University, I would like to send my warmest greetings to you and your colleagues at the US Embassy Hanoi and the Fulbright Specialist Program in Washington DC. I am writing this letter to express our sincere gratitude for the Fulbright sponsorship for Dr. Nhut Tan Ho's work at Vinh University as a Fulbright Specialist from July 29th to August 13th, 2018 and the superb support provided by the Fulbright Program in Vietnam and in the US. I am also delighted to inform you that Vinh University conferred Dr. Ho a Distinguished Contribution Award for his significant contributions to the development of Vinh University's strategic plans and the implementation of our curriculum reform initiatives.

We very much appreciate that Dr. Ho was willing to help Vinh University and the Fulbright Specialist Program for sponsoring his project. With extensive expertise and profound knowledge in CDIO theory

and practical implementation, Dr. Ho made full use of his two weeks at Vinh University to help our President, Vice Presidents, Deans, Department Chairs, and faculty members draft strategic plans at the University, College, and Departmental levels, as well as shed light on numerous technical issues related to CDIO implementation. Not only has he inspired Vinh University's faculty members to be more confident and determined on the pathway to implement CDIO successfully, but also strengthened their mindset to deal with problems and appreciate the depth of the cultural and organizational changes needed for implementing CDIO. He also took initiative to meet with Dr. Nha Xuan Phung, Minister of the Vietnam Ministry of Education and Training (MOET), and proposed a project to develop a CDIO-based model framework for training next generation K-12 teachers at Vinh University and for transferring this model other to

all K-12 teacher training institutions in Vietnam. Minister Phung thought highly of this initiative and has expressed willingness to provide policy support for implementing and disseminating this project through the ETEP Program. We highly appreciate Dr. Ho's dedication and contributions to the educational reform at Vinh University. We wish to receive his continued consultation in this important reform effort and will initiate collaboration with Dr. Ho's home institution at the California State University, Northridge in the US.

In the past 15 years, Vinh University has been a beneficiary of the Fulbright's diverse programs, including the Fulbright Scholar, Fulbright Specialist, Fulbright Student, and the Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship Programs. This diversity in assistance has enabled us to make transformational changes at Vinh University."



The Ice-Makers of Trần Hưng Đạo Street

By Paul Christiansen, ETA 2015—2016 in Quy Nhơn

Before the sky cracks the sun open against coastal cliffs,
yolkly light spilling across the city's cement and shell-strewn soil,
the employees of the corner ice factory are awake, at work,
their cigarettes burning in the dark like the fluorescent esca of anglerfish.

Wearing nothing but cotton shorts and knee-high rubber boots,
they spray tap water from rusty spigots into long, metal canisters,
then peel back the building's lead floorboards,
sliding the ten-foot flasks into deep concrete catacombs,

where a hidden, lichen-like complex of cords, tubes and wires
transforms the tepid water into cold, crystalline blocks.

The workers rest beneath fan blades that pace like captive tigers,
rising only to disinter the ice using sprigs of rebar.



They make a stack of fresh slabs that steams like a waking volcano,
then skid each block down a wooden shoot into the back of a pickup truck.

Not the purified cubes fit for bars or restaurants,
the delivered product will be chopped and shattered,
splintered into nests for the markets' prawns, snappers, squid and eels,
or dumped into the coconut-filled coolers of vendors lining the tourist beach.

Meanwhile, the ice-makers of Trần Hưng Đạo Street will make their way home,
their frozen fingers being coaxied back into feeling by the sun –
barbaric sun of ammonites and australopithecine
that forbids glaciers from laying apathetic lips on Earth's feverish, equatorial temple.





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